

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/613,596

Examiner

Dominic E. Rego

Applicant(s)

MCCARTY ET AL.

Art Unit

2618

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09/11/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9, 15-35, 67-75 and 81-101.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-9,15-35,67-75, and 81-101 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1 and 67, the prior art of record, specifically Schaeffer, Jr. et al. (US 2003/0062990) teaches an apparatus for receiving an audio signal via a powerline network (Paragraphs 0018, 0021, 0096, and 0097), the apparatus comprising:

a housing (Paragraph 0076: Schaeffer teaches a stereo system 90 having various components such as a receiver which have housing);

a powerline module located in the housing (*Paragraphs 0018,0021,0050,0060 and 0076*),

Sugimoto et al. (US Patent #5,579,304) teaches the power line module comprising:

a frequency converting module configured to convert a powerline signal of an intermediate frequency, received via a powerline network, into a baseband signal (See claim 46)

Huang et al. (US Patent #5,694,436) teaches an A/D converting module configured to convert the baseband signal into a digital signal (Col 3, lines 35-54).

However, none of the prior art cited alone or in combination provides the motivation to teach a signal processing module configured to convert the digital signal into a combined signal; and

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a powerline magnetics module configured to provide isolation between the powerline network and the frequency converting module, the frequency converting module operating on a substantially lower voltage than the powerline network;

a receiver module located in the housing and configured to extract a control signal and an audio signal from the converted combined signal, the receiver module manipulating the audio signal based on the extracted control signal;

a plug coupled to the housing and configured for insertion into an electrical receptacle;

a power supply in the housing, coupled to the plug and configured to distribute electrical energy to the receiver module; and

an output wire configured to couple the housing to an output device.

Regarding claims 2-9,15-35,68-75, and 81-101, the claims are allowed as being dependent of claims 1 and 67, respectively.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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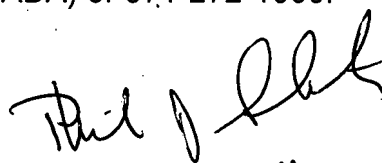
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dominic E. Rego whose telephone number is 571-272-8132. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on 571-272-7882. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Dominic E. Rego
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9/16/17
PHILIP J. SOBUTKA
PATENT EXAMINER